

**STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
SOLID WASTE PROGRAM  
555 CORDOVA STREET  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501**

**SOLID WASTE TREATMENT FACILITY PERMIT  
BP EXPLORATION (ALASKA) INC.  
NORTHSTAR GRIND AND INJECT FACILITY**

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**BP Exploration (ALASKA) INC.  
PERMIT NO. 9821-BA002**

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~~February 11, 1999~~**

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Environmental Health, Solid Waste Program, in accordance with the requirements of Alaska Statute 46.03, and Alaska Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapters 15 and 60, as amended or revised, issues a Solid Waste Treatment Facility Permit to:

**BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.  
900 East Benson Boulevard  
Post Office Box 196612  
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6612  
Northstar Grind and Inject Facility**

This permit authorizes the treatment (grinding) of RCRA exempt, non-hazardous exploration and production (E&P) waste from oil and gas activities for disposal by injection at an injection well approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (AOGCC). No waste storage provisions are provided in this permit. The facility is located in the Beaufort Sea on Seal Island, within the Northstar Unit, which is located in Townships 13 & 14 North, Range 13 East, Umiat Meridian. An application for this treatment facility permit was received by the Department on May 29, 1998 and additional information was provided for a complete application on October 28, 1998. A public notice was published in the Anchorage Daily News, on June 1, 1998, and in the Fairbanks Daily New Minor on June 2, 1998. This project was determined to be consistent with the standards of the Alaska Coastal Management Program on February 4, 1999 and the operation of this facility is subject to the conditions of this permit.

This permit is effective upon issuance and expires February 28, 2004, at which time this permit must be renewed or the facility closed. The Department must receive an application for permit renewal at least 30 days before the permit expiration date. The Department may terminate or modify this permit in accordance with AS 46.03.120.

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**SPECIFIC CONDITIONS****A. Application Compliance**

1. This permit is based on the application information received by the Department on May 29, September 21, and October 28, 1998. The Permittee must comply with the designs and plans submitted in the application, unless modified in this permit. The Permittee may request a permit modification in writing, which must be authorized and signed by the Solid Waste Program Coordinator before the permit modification is effective.

**B. Site Preparation**

1. Signs [18 AAC 60.240(a)]

The Permittee shall:

install and maintain a readable sign at the facility entrance, which identifies the following information:

- a. name of the facility and the Permittee;
- b. emergency telephone numbers;
- c. type of waste treated at the facility;
- d. specify that municipal camp waste and hazardous waste are prohibited.

## 2. Surface Water Quality Control

[18 AAC 60.225, 18 AAC 60.430(c)]

The Permittee Shall:

- a. construct and maintain diversion structures (ditches or berms) and surface grading as needed to prevent a discharge from the treatment facility.
- b. control drainage from the treatment facility to prevent a violation of the water quality standards of 18 AAC 70.

**C. Facility Operation**

## 1. Treatment Facility Operations

The Permittee Shall:

- a. ensure the waste treated under this permit authorization complies with the requirements and conditions of the permit. This permit authorizes the treatment of drilling wastes associated with the exploration, development, and production of crude oil or natural gas, including drilling muds, cuttings, hydrocarbons, brine, acid, sand, pigging waste, vessel clean outs, and emulsions or mixtures of fluids produced from and unique to the operation or maintenance of a well, whether naturally occurring or added for the operation or productivity of the well; drilling wastes include only wastes described in this paragraph which are derived intrinsically from primary field operations, produced from a well, and removed at the drill site or removed at a crude oil production facility by crude oil or waste water treatment process before custody transfer of the crude oil; drilling wastes do not include spent solvents and oils from equipment maintenance activities, discarded chemical products, or fuels.
- b. other wastes that may be processed at this facility are not covered under in this permit.

## 2. Fluid Management

The Permittee Shall:

- a. prevent, contain or control visible leaks from the treatment facility and any associated features used to the transfer solid waste.

- b. recover any spilled waste from the treatment facility as soon as possible and dispose of the waste in accordance with all applicable state laws and regulations.

### 3. Prohibitions and Restrictions

The Permittee shall:

- a. prohibit the storage and treatment of RCRA non-exempt oily wastes (such as used oil filters, shop rags, and absorbents), prohibited chemical waste, radioactive material other than NORM, solvents, corrosives, lead-acid batteries, polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) fluids, explosives, and any other hazardous waste defined and regulated under 40 CFR 261. Report all spills or discharges of hazardous substances that occur at the facility as described in 18 AAC 75, Article 3, as revised or amended.

- b. ensure that the treatment facility does not cause a discharge of pollutants to the surface of the land or into surface waters.

## D. Monitoring

### 1. Visual Monitoring

[18 AAC 60.800]

The Permittee Shall:

- a. ensure that a person who is familiar with the requirements of this permit and with the applicable requirements of the Solid Waste Management Regulations, 18 AAC 60, conduct a visual inspection of the facility at least once per month while the G&I facility is operating, and receiving waste, and maintain a written record of each inspection. The records must be made available to the Department upon request and should be kept in the operating record for the facility.

This visual monitoring program will detect and document:

- i. damage or signs of potential damage to any component of the facility from settlement, ponding, leakage, thermal instability, frost action, erosion, thawing of the waste, or operation at the facility;

- ii. damage or disturbance to any sampling sites;
  - iii. violations of permit conditions or the requirements of 18 AAC 60;
  - iv. escape of waste leachate or the treatment of any unauthorized waste;
  - v. damage to the structural integrity or containment structure, retaining wall, erosion control, or diversion structure;
  - vi. signs of fire or combustion in the waste cell;
  - vii. evidence of death or stress to wildlife or vegetation that might be caused by the facility.
- b. upon noticing any permit violation or damage to the facility, immediately notify the ADEC, Solid Waste Program office and initiate any corrective action necessary.

2. Corrective Action

[18 AAC 60.815]

- a. at the request of the Department, sample and analyze any surface water and/or soil to determine if waste escapement or contamination has occurred.
- b. determine the extent of the contamination and if migration of pollutants from the facility is the cause of the contamination.
- c. evaluate whether the water quality standards in 18 AAC 70 are threatened or exceeded at the point of compliance
- d. submit written notification to the department within thirty (30) days after detecting a violation of the applicable water quality standards.
- e. take appropriate corrective action to correct a violation or damage, prevent the escape of waste or leachate, and clean up any improper waste disposal if any violation of a permit condition, State regulation, or structural damage to the facility or a monitoring device is observed.
- f. indications of contamination may include, but are not limited to:
  - i. a sudden, abrupt, or significant increase in any one, or more, pollutants listed in 40 C.F. R Part 258, Appendix I, which are attributed to site operations.

- ii. for purposes of this permit, contamination of surface waters shall be deemed a violation when contaminant levels exceed those levels specified in 18 AAC 70 (Water Quality Standards) except for those parameters documented as having natural background levels already exceeding those limits.

**E. Reporting and Record Keeping**

[18 AAC 60.235]

The Permittee Shall:

1. maintain a facility operating record. The record must be retained at a location that is readily accessible for department review and by employees working at the facility. The operating record must consist of:
  - a. the permit application and the permit;
  - b. inspection records, training procedures;
  - c. any demonstration, certification, finding, monitoring, testing, or analytical data required by this permit or the Department
  - d. any permit or record required under the Clean Water Act as that Act applies to leachate and storm water discharges;
  - e. the treatment facility operating plan;
  - f. as-built drawings of the treatment facility.
2. submit copies of any water quality monitoring and corrective action monitoring laboratory test results, as required in Section D.2. (Corrective Action) of this permit, to the above listed office of the Department within thirty (30) days from receipt of the laboratory analyses.

**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
Solid Waste Program  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501**

**F. Treatment Facility Closure**

[18 AAC 60.400]

The Permittee Shall:

1. notify, in writing, the Department's Anchorage Solid Waste Program at least thirty (30) days before the treatment facility is permanently closed.
2. ensure closure activities are inspected by a third party or supervised by the permittee or a representative familiar with the closure requirements of the facility. A written closure verification in the form of a notarized statement must be signed by the permittee and submitted to the Department within 30 days of the final closure action.

This closure verification must include:

- a. a statement verifying that the site was closed in accordance with the facility closure plan submitted in the application, the date(s) the closure activity took place, and the signature(s) of person(s) who supervised or performed the closure activity certifying that the information provided is true.
3. ensure that all waste material is removed from the treatment facility.
4. decommission the treatment facility and dispose of all timbers, liners and debris at a permitted solid waste disposal facility.
5. collect grab samples of the soil and/or water (if available) that were underlying the treatment facility and have them analyzed to determine if contamination has occurred.
6. submit the test results from underlying soil and/or water analyses (see Section F.5) and photographs showing the decommissioned treatment facility site. If the test results show no statistically significant change in background soil and/or water conditions, and photographs show that all solid waste has been completely removed from the site no post closure care will be required. This documentation must be submitted and approved by the Department before final closure is issued.
7. initiate corrective action and post closure monitoring in accordance with Section D.2. if a statically significant change in background soil and/or water conditions is shown or there is remaining solid waste at the site.

**G. Violation and Enforcement**

1. Noncompliance with any section of this permit constitutes a violation of the permit.
2. Pollution, as defined in AS 46.03.900, resulting from the operation of this permitted facility, constitutes a violation of this permit.

3. A violation of any condition of this permit may result in the imposition of civil penalties in accordance with AS 46.03.760 and/or criminal penalties AS 46.03.790. Additionally, the Permittee may be required to expand monitoring, evaluate impacts, and provide restoration at the site.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

### **A. Access and Inspection**

The Department's representatives shall be allowed access to the Permittee's facilities to conduct scheduled or unscheduled inspections or tests to determine compliance with this permit and State laws and regulations.

### **B. Availability of Records**

Except for information related to confidential processes or methods of manufacture, all application materials and records and reports submitted in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the Department's Southcentral Regional Office.

### **C. Location of Permit and Application**

The Permittee shall maintain a copy of this permit and facility plans at the disposal facility or, if that is not feasible, at the Permittee's or operator's place of business.

### **D. Civil and Criminal Liability**

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the Permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance, whether or not such noncompliance is due to factors beyond his control, including but not limited to accidents, equipment breakdowns, or labor dispute.

### **E. Adverse Impacts**

The Permittee shall take all necessary means to minimize any adverse impact to the receiving waters or lands resulting from a violation or noncompliance with any limitations specified in this permit, including any additional monitoring needed to determine the nature and impact of the activity in noncompliance. The Permittee shall cleanup and restore all areas adversely impacted by the noncompliance.

### **F. Cultural or Paleontological Resources**

Should cultural or paleontological resources be discovered as a result of this activity, work which would disturb such resources are to be stopped, and the Office of History and Archaeology, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Department of Natural Resources, is to be notified immediately (907) 269-8721.

**G. Property Rights**

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights in either real or personal property, nor does it authorize any damage to private property.

**H. Modifications or Changes**

This permit authorizes only that operation specified in the application and permit. Any alteration, installation, expansion or modification which was not submitted as a component of the permitted facility plan will require a written plan approval or permit amendment prior to implementation. Any expansion, modification, or other change in a facility process or operation which may result in an increase in emissions or discharges or may cause other detrimental environmental impacts from the Permittee's facility requires a new permit.

**I. Applications for Permit Renewal, Amendment or Plan Approval**

Application for a renewal of, or amendment to, a permit will be treated in the same manner as the initial application, except that public notice or hearing may not be required for applications for renewal or amendment. Application for renewal or amendment or plan approval must be made no later than 30 days before the expiration of the permit or the planned effective date of the amendment or change.

**J. Transfers**

This Department reserves the sole discretion to transfer this permit. The Permittee may request to transfer this permit to another proposed Permittee. The written request must include a certified signed affidavit from the proposed new Permittee stating that they accept this permit in its entirety.

The permittee is responsible to insure that all terms and conditions of the permit are met until the transfer is approved. Transfer of the permit is only valid when written approval has been received from the department. Should operation of the facility be contracted or a change in contractors is made, the new contractor shall be notified of the existence of the permit and its conditions.

**K. Termination**

This permit terminates upon the expiration date. The Department has the authority to terminate a permit upon 30 days written notice if the Department finds that there has been a violation of the conditions of the permit.

**L.     Pollution Prevention**

In order to prevent and minimize present and future pollution, when making management decisions that affect waste generation, the Permittee shall consider the following order of priority options, as outlined in AS 46.06.021:

1.     waste source reduction;
2.     recycling of waste;
3.     waste treatment; and
4.     waste disposal.